



# ***Daily Report***

## **Sub-Saharan Africa**

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# Daily Report

## Sub-Saharan Africa

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## Burundi

### Burundi: Army Kills 20 Hutus in Central Area

EA0504202196 Bujumbura ABP in French  
1347 GMT 5 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Bujumbura, 5 Apr — Clashes between Hutu armed groups and the Burundian army, which is mostly Tutsi, have taken place in the commune of Makebuko in Gitega province in the center of the country, resulting in the deaths of 20 and the wounding of 10 people, all of them Hutus, the national radio reported on Friday, 5 April. According to Burundi radio, the Hutu armed groups which had just destabilized the commune of Gishubi, were withdrawing to the neighboring commune of Makebuko, when they suddenly encountered the Burundian army. Twelve Hutu civilians were then killed on Karoba hill and another eight on Kiyange and Jaja hills, while a further 10 were seriously wounded. It is worth mentioning that the president of the Republic, who is himself a native of Gishubi commune, and the foreign minister, today visited their native commune in an attempt to comfort the people.

### Burundi: Minister Says Rebels Now Attacking Indiscriminately

AB0604183796 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 gmt 06 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Following the deadly attacks carried out by the criminal gang, in the provinces of Bururi, Makamba, Getega and Karuzi, the minister of Interior and Public Security, Sylvestre Banzubaze, has just talked to our colleague, Innocent Nsabimana, by telephone. He described the horrors committed by the killers before asking the international community to condemn the ignoble acts:

[Begin recording] [Banzubaze] You know that since the second half of March, we have been experiencing increased aggression from armed gangs, which could be described as fascist killers, especially in the provinces of Bururi, Makamba, Getega and Karuzi.

[Nsabimana] Who are the organizers and perpetrators of the massacres which are being perpetrated countrywide?

[Banzubaze] These are tribal and terrorist gangs claiming to belong to the FDD [Front for the Defense of Democracy] of Nyangoma, Frolina [Front for National Liberation] and Palipenutu [Party for the Liberation of the Hutu People], who opted for fascism in our country as a way of solving political problems. Currently the killers are attacking indiscriminately all those who do not adhere to their ideology, except in a few cases. They see virtue in blind criminal terrorism, barbarism, and monstrosity to extent of even attacking animals. One

can then ask oneself to which ethnic or political group they belong.

[Nsabimana] What, in your view, is their aim?

[Banzubaze] There are two aims: There is a clear determination to stir up panic and confusion among the people so as to divide them and precipitate inter-ethnic confrontation which could overshadow the genocide they are responsible for. The second aim is to block the internal solutions designed to resolve the political crisis in Burundi, for example that in the framework of the Hyerere initiative to solve conflicts peacefully.

As far as the people are concerned, we deplore the grievously high loss of human life. We deplore [words indistinct] in difficult conditions. However, all the mechanisms have been put in motion so as to restore peace in homes. I take this opportunity to renew my condolences to those who have fallen victim to the ignoble acts for which the perpetrators will have to answer before the law.

Concerning the international community, well, I have one word: the above crimes are among those regularly and loudly condemned by the international community wherever they are perpetrated. We are waiting to see that the same be done in the case at hand, while the contrary would be unbelievable.

The killers have not yielded. The day before yesterday [4 April], they attacked the Muhwezo zone in Rutovu commune [in southern Burundi]. The attacks put the people to flight. Some are currently gathered at the old Muhweza market while others are at the Rutovu center. The death toll is not yet known, but according to the Burundi governor whom we talked to by telephone, there have been two deaths and many houses burned. What is urgent now is help for the war-displaced. [end recording]

## Rwanda

### Rwanda: President Reaffirms Intent To Punish Genocide Perpetrators

EA0704165596 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English  
0515 GMT 07 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] On the second anniversary of genocide, HE [His Excellency] Pasteur Bizimungu has said that the politicians who led this country into genocide shall be brought to justice and punished according to the law. President Bizimungu said that the rulers in this country led the killing, beginning with the Bahima [Tutsi sub-tribe] in Mutura (ed: northwest), the killings in (Kibilira) and Bugesera [south] and after that the genocide spread all over the country. The president



said that the genocide which we commemorate on 7th April, had started earlier with the teaching of ethnic hatred and the training of Interahamwe [Hutu militia].

President Bizimungu said the government of national unity stopped genocide and has kept at bay those who are trying to continue the genocide that they committed in 1994. He added that the government, with lack of resources, has been trying to deal with many problems left behind by the genocide, hence trying to take orphans to school and helping widows who cannot fend for themselves.

The president said that it is not an easy task, but the government will fight on. He added that the judicial system may be working within a period of two months and concluded by saying that the most important thing to do is to ensure that genocide is not repeated. He urged all Banyarwanda [Rwandans] to fight ignorance and greed, for these are among the major causes of genocide.

#### **Rwanda: Kagame Criticizes Media for 'Overplaying' Refugee Problem**

*EA0704164496 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English  
0515 GMT 07 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The vice president [Paul Kagame] says the Rwandan Government is ready to receive any influx of refugees returning home. In a press conference held in his office last evening, the vice president said that the government recognizes the right of refugees to return and the government will provide the necessary arrangement for the security, which is the right of every Munyarwanda [Rwandan national].

The vice president castigated part of the media which is overplaying the problem of refugees, such that the question of bringing to justice perpetrators of genocide is relegated to second place. He said that refugees are free to come home, but those responsible for genocide must be brought to justice. The vice president said that the return of recent refugees is not going to cause any problem in settlement, because they will be returning to their homes. He, however, added that the 1959 refugees are not yet settled, though the government is trying to allocate them plots on which to build houses.

Concerning the question of Zairians of Rwandese origin who are fleeing to Rwanda, the vice president said that the government will give them asylum as refugees and talk to the Zairean Government to find a solution to this problem.

#### **Rwanda: Cabinet Discusses Draft Law on Genocide**

*EA0604200596 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English  
0515 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] A cabinet meeting chaired by HE [His Excellency] President Pasteur Bizimungu, yesterday examined among others a draft law and new proposals regarding the genocide crimes and conviction of genocide suspects and other crimes against humanity committed between the dates of 1st October 1990 and 1st December 1994. [passage omitted]

The meeting also dismissed information obtained from the EC that Rwanda has called for assistance to combat mad cow disease similar to that of Britain. The cabinet said no such disease is in Rwanda and no such call has ever been made and that such lies [are] meant to spoil the economy of the country.

### **Zaire**

#### **Zaire: Inter-Ethnic Unrest Reported in Lake Kivu Region**

*AB0504170396 London BBC World Service  
in English 1505 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There has been a renewal in the past few weeks in disturbances in the Lake Kivu Region of eastern Zaire. It goes back for decades, and it involves tension between local people and those of Rwandan origin, the Banyarwanda. From time to time, there are clashes, the Zairian Army moves in, and more often than not, the Rwandans are given a very hard time. What was a delicate situation at best has been made far worse by the huge influx of refugees from Rwanda into eastern Zaire, and trouble in the region recently has, once again, put people to flight. Our Kigali reporter, Charles Keikana, has just met people who fled the Lake Kivu Region. Mary Harper asked him, what they told him about what was going on:

[Begin recording] [Keikana] They said that a section of the Zairian Army and a group of Interahamwe militia came and invaded them in their homesteads, asked them to leave that part of Zaire and go to Rwanda to join their brothers.

[Harper] Are these people being told why they are being harassed? Is there any explanation being given?

[Keikana] They were told that they should quit that part of Zaire because the Interahamwe group wants to create a Hutuland in that part of Zaire.

[Harper] Did these people tell you how they are being harassed? Are there people being killed? What exactly is going on?



[Keikana] They have maintained that there is killing, beating, raping, confiscation of property, and burning down some of their houses, and then they take away from them their valuable personal property like clothes, watches, and all that, and money; and then they haul them into trucks and they send them to the border between Zaire and Rwanda.

[Harper] Has the Rwandan Government said anything about what's going on? Have they confirmed that there is, indeed, trouble and that people are, indeed, crossing the border into Rwanda?

[Keikana] Yes, they did so. The other day, the minister for information, Mr. Bizimana, who is the government spokesman, held a press conference in which he said that the Zairian Government is not giving cooperation to resolve the problems that are facing the countries that are countries of the Great Lakes Region. He confirmed that so far over 3,000 refugees of Zaire are already in Rwanda, and he said that he visited the area and he talked to the people, and he assured them that as long as they are in Rwanda they will take up matters to the international community to see whether Zaire can cooperate to solve the problems.

[Harper] Is the Rwandan Government planning any kind of military action to try to stop this activity from taking place that you are aware of?

[Keikana] He didn't say so but from the details of his press communique he said that the Rwandan Government is ready and is capable of defending its territorial integrity and providing protection to its citizens and those people living in Rwanda. So, when we asked him whether he meant any military confrontation, he said no. [end recording]

#### **Zaire: Police Prevent Council Members From Holding Session**

*AB0504224696 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French  
1830 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Zairian police today in Kinshasa prevented the parliamentarian's week from being held. The reason given was that it was not authorized. From Kinshasa, Kamanda wa Kamanda Muzembe explains:

[Begin Muzembe recording] Without brutality, but with firmness, the security forces banned any access to the People's Palace, the headquarters of the High Council of the Republic-Transitional Parliament [HCR-PT], where the parliamentarian's week initiated by a group of the HCR-PT from the various political parties was to be held. The organization of the week was aimed at making a self-criticism of the transitional parliament in order to give it a new impetus for the rest of the transitional period. The theme of the week was: Restoring the rights of the HCR-PT and the independence of the legislator.

Speaking on behalf of the organizing committee of the parliamentarian's week, Dieudonne Kalombo Nkole said the decision of the HCR-PT bureau to ban this meeting at the People's Palace is unjustified and violates the fundamental rights of legislators. The decision also proves the body's responsibility and role in the absence of progress in parliamentary proceedings and how degenerate the HCR-TP is, Dieudonne Kalombo added. He also expressed the determination of the council members more than ever before to organize the week. [end recording]

## Somalia

### **Somalia: Ongoing Fighting Between Ato, Aidid Militias Leaves 17 Dead**

*AB0504161096 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Fighting between militias of Somali faction leaders General Farah Aidid and his former financier, Osman Ali Ato, has been going on in Mogadishu for the second day. It broke out in the south of the city yesterday after negotiations between the two sides broke down. It followed skirmishes near the port of Marka last month. Yesterday, there was heavy mortar and machine-gun fire. It went on all night and into this morning and the death toll is rising. From Mogadishu, Ali Musa Abdi faxed this report:

Initial reports say at least 17 people have been killed in today's fighting. At least 40 were injured and treated at clinics in south and north Mogadishu. Shelling and gunfire continued throughout the night and today's casualties are mainly civilians caught in crossfire between Gen. Mohamed Aidid and Osman Ato's militiamen. Some of the wounded are reported to have been unable to obtain treatment in south Mogadishu because the hospitals have been totally surrounded by fighting militia. So far, there are no peace negotiations going on and many people fear that the fighting may spread to other areas of the capital. Dozens of so-called technicals or battle wagons have been seen maneuvering in the main streets of north Mogadishu.

Meanwhile, the 17 factions of north Mogadishu concluded their meeting last night. They agreed to convene a national reconciliation conference to be held sometime soon in Mogadishu. The factions have appointed a preparatory committee which will announce a date for the conference. The factions have also invited Gen. Aidid to attend the meeting, as well as the self-proclaimed president of Somaliland, Mohamed Egal.

### **Somalia: Militiamen Fire On EU Commissioner, AFP Correspondent**

*AB0504182196 Paris AFP in English 1740 GMT 05 Apr 96*

[By Hugh Nevill]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kismayo, Somalia, April 5 (AFP) — European Union Commissioner for Humanitarian Affairs Emma Bonino found herself in the midst of gunfire in Somalia on Friday [5 April], with her convoy having to shoot its way through to Kismayo airport after a visit to this southern city.

The hair-raising incident followed gunfire that broke out about an hour earlier as the convoy — in which an AFP correspondent was also travelling — was going into the city.

"I wouldn't say I was really scared," the 48-year-old Italian commissioner told journalists afterwards.

"What scared me most was the confusion. I think I was more frightened that we would end up in hospital because the driver was doing 100 kilometres (60 miles) an hour and looking behind him," she said.

The first shots came after Bonino's car developed a tyre puncture on the 13-kilometre (eight-mile) dirt road into Kismayo, halting the convoy of passenger vehicles, battle-wagons and pick-up trucks full of militiamen loyal to local warlord Mohamed Said Hersi "Morgan."

Bonino's car was in the lead, behind a "technical," a pick-up truck with a heavy gun mounted.

The commissioner transferred to the number two car and continued on.

As she did so, a car being driven by a man loyal to Mohamed Haji Aden, an ally of warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid and rival to Morgan, swept past the rest of the convoy, which was still halted, and took up the lead position.

Delegation members who had been in car number two got into that car, thinking it was part of the convoy.

At that point Morgan pulled the driver out and slapped him on both cheeks, they said.

Alexandros Yannis of the European Commission and Eusebe Hounsokou, representing the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said about 20 of Morgan's men surrounded the vehicle with guns levelled.

The militiamen fired several single shots, then a volley of automatic fire, all into the air.

The 20 or so delegation members in the halted cars ran into the sparse brush on the side of the road or crouched below windscreen level.

"I hit the dirt," Yannis said.

The convoy continued on to Kismayo, where the bushy bearded general assured Bonino there would be no problems on the return trip to the airport.

Morgan, known as "the butcher of Hargeysa" for his role in subduing that northern city as defence minister to late dictator Mohamed Siad Barre, his father-in-law, blamed the attack on Aidid.

"Aidid gave instructions last night to disturb the delegation," he told Bonino in a public meeting.

**Somalia: Ato Radio Claims Aidid Back in Mogadishu To Escalate Fighting**

*EA0604204096 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] A spokesman for the USC-SNA [United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance] said today that the warmonger, Aidid, had returned to Mogadishu to escalate the fighting which started in south Mogadishu on 4 April and which has already resulted in huge human and material losses. The aim of the warmonger's return to Mogadishu is to attack Somali organizations and people who do not accept his anti-peace policy.

The spokesman also said that Aidid today held a series of meetings with his cohorts to discuss ways of wreaking further destruction and displacement of people to satisfy his illusory dreams. The spokesman appealed to Somalis: 1. To jointly counter Aidid's suicidal acts in the country; 2. To resist being extorted of their money under the pretext of taxes at roadblocks, given that there is no central authority to execute such tax collection; 3. The USC-SNA appeals for the third time to communities and individuals who gave Aidid their men and technicals [battle wagons] to immediately take them back, since these men and technicals are meant to harm their brother Somalis; 4. The USC-SNA appeals to Somali youths gathering at marketplaces to desist from participating in civil war.

In conclusion, the USC-SNA spokesman expressed profound gratitude to communities and individuals who had withdrawn their technicals and men from Aidid's militia.

**Somalia: Ato Radio Reports Aidid Mortar-Bombing Civilian Areas**

*EA0604204296 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] A senior officer of the USC-SNA [United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance] Defense Forces said today that the fighting sparked off by unprovoked attacks by the self-appointed group [Aidid's faction] had entered its third day today, during which Aidid's bandits had been dealt heavy blows. The spokesman for the USC-SNA Defense Forces added that during the massive counterattacks, the USC-SNA forces destroyed a number of technicals [battle wagons] and captured a wide range of arms, military equipment and fuel, having driven the bandits back to their original positions.

Following their defeats and reverses during the fighting on 19, 21, and 26 March and in the last consecutive three days of clashes, Aidid's bandits resorted to lob-

bing mortar shells into civilian areas, such as the big Bakaaraha market, and similar places. The spokesman added the aim of mortar-bombing civilian areas was to extend the fighting into the business centers.

The spokesman commended the USC-SNA defense forces for their gallantry and successes against Aidid's aggression. In conclusion, the spokesman appealed to the Somali people to jointly confront Aidid, the bandit who was bent on fanning war in Somalia.

**Somalia: Ato Radio Reports Aidid Mobilizing Mogadishu Youth**

*EA0704200896 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 07 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] A spokesman for the USC-SNA [United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance] defense forces said that Aidid was today mobilising youths in Mogadishu for a war he hoped would satisfy his illusory dreams.

It was important for the youths to ask themselves why they should be mobilised for a war that would either render them dead or wounded. The spokesman said the warmongers [Aidid's faction] had turned hospitals and health centers into battle fields, forcing their closure. He said since these hospitals were closed by hostilities, the wounded were being taken to their homes.

The spokesman warned Somali clans not to support the warmonger Aidid with arms and materiel. They should realise the consequences of their actions and the destruction that could be brought about by the current civil war in Mogadishu. The spokesman said the USC-SNA had always upheld peaceful coexistence as its objective.

**Somalia: Truce Reported Between Aidid, Ato Militiamen**

*AB0604191496 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" Program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] After two days of heavy fighting in south Mogadishu between militias of General Farah Aidid and those of his former ally, Osman Ali Ato, there is apparently some kind of truce or standoff. The first skirmishes between the two factions were around the port of Merca, south of Mogadishu. They backed off, but then it broke out in the capital, and it seems Gen. Aidid himself might have intervened to stop the fighting. From Mogadishu, Ali Musa Abdi faxed this report:



Although the sound of shelling was still audible in some parts of the cities, the thunderous noise of heavy weapons and small arms fire ceased around 7 o'clock this morning. Some politicians have attributed the cease-fire to Gen. Aidid's arrival in Mogadishu late last night. It is not known what prompted Aidid to leave his stronghold in Baidoa, 200 miles southwest of Mogadishu, where he has been based for the past eight months or whether he intends to pursue a military or political solution to the crisis. However, he was accompanied by more than 25 battle wagons and hundreds of heavily armed militiamen.

Meanwhile, clashes broke out last night near the airport between supporters of Gen. Aidid and those of Ali Mahdi Mohamed. The fighting lasted for more than an hour. Neither side gained any ground during the clashes, but both sides sustained undisclosed casualties.

#### **Somalia: Locality Recaptured From General Aidid Forces**

AP0804114596 London BBC World Service  
in English 1705 GMT 7 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Rahanwein Resistance Movement in southwestern Somalia were claiming this weekend to have retaken Huudur, which fell to General Aidid's Somali National Alliance last month. And if it is confirmed, it will be another serious blow for Aidid, whose forces have been under attack in recent days in Kismaayo and in the capital from rival clan militias. Our Mogadishu correspondent, Ali Musa Abdi, faxed this report:

The communique issued by the Rahanwein Resistance Army, the RRA, said their forces have regained control of Hudur last night. The communique, which was issued from the center of Somali town of Buurweyn, said the RRA met little resistance from militiamen loyal to General Aidid who took Huudur earlier this year. The communique said that three of Aidid's men and two of its own were killed during the recapture. The communique said the RRA were now advancing on Bajeela, which Gen. Aidid captured from the Rahanwein clan militia last September. The communique comes only one day after Gen. Aidid arrived with a heavy militia force in Mogadishu, leaving Huudur and Badda regions under the command of his lieutenants. Gen. Aidid appears to have come to Mogadishu to beef up his military presence there and to do with an outbreak of fighting between his militiamen and those of Osman Ali Ato. Supporters of Gen. Aidid claimed that the fighting at Huudur was merely a clash with what they refer to as the Rehanwein separatists.

Gen. Aidid men have always claimed never to have been defeated in any contest with the RRA. No independent confirmation of the situation at Huudur is available yet.

Meanwhile, the situation in Mogadishu remains tense. Gen. Aidid has been holding talks with his top lieutenants about the volatile situation in the capital. It is thought that Gen. Aidid is worried about possible attacks from rival militias of Ali Mahdi Mohamed and any political solution seemed unlikely at the moment.

#### **Uganda**

#### **Uganda: Museveni Claims Army Repulsed Rebel Attack**

EA0804115096 Kampala THE NEW VISION  
in English 8 Apr 96 p 1

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] President Yoweri Museveni says the army "successfully repulsed" an attack on a convoy on Karuma-Pakwach road on Saturday [6 April].

The engagement demonstrated that the UPDF [Uganda People's Defense Force] now had the capacity to deal with land mines and the rebel threat in northern Uganda, he said.

"As far as I am concerned, we are now getting to grips with these people," he added.

An attack on a convoy in the same area by the rebel Lord's Resistance Army of Joseph Kony on 8th March left about 30 people dead and 11 vehicles, including six buses, were burnt.

"As I said in my press conference, it will be very difficult for the bandits to remain in the north beyond this month. These incidents show that the army can get rid of this problem and make it impossible for them to do serious damage even though we may not kill all of them," Museveni told 'The New Vision' yesterday. [passage omitted]

"These incidents show that all you need is good surveillance and quick reactions. The state is capable of containing and reacting to the bandits," he said. "We are now able to locate them. We attack them. They scatter. When they regroup, we attack them again." [passage omitted]

Museveni said more helicopters were under repair and would soon speed up the pursuit of the rebels. He said UPDF casualties had been minimal recently because the rebels never attempted anything more than "harassing fire".

Museveni said: "The state has an answer to the threat of land mines."

**South Africa: Minister Erwin To Assume  
Presidency of UN Group**

*MB0604132996 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
2239 GMT 04 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town April 4 SAPA — Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin will assume the four-year presidency of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) when it meets in South Africa later this month.

Erwin and his deputy Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka met outgoing UNCTAD president and World Trade Organisation General Council president William Rossier in Cape Town on Thursday [4 April], a trade and industry statement said. Several issues relating to UNCTAD's ninth conference to be held from April 6 to May 11 was discussed. There was general agreement by both parties that a solid foundation needed to be built before and during the conference for a coherent, integrated and visible programme of support for developing countries, the statement said.

**South Africa: ANC To Sell Property Abroad To  
Raise Funds**

*MB0704171096 Johannesburg RAPPORT  
in Afrikaans 7 Apr 96 p 6*

[Report by Eugene Gunning]

[FBIS Translated Text] The ANC is in the process of selling some of its property abroad in a bid to replenish its coffers. The millions of rands expected from the sale of the property will most likely be used in the party's election campaigns.

The value of the ANC's property abroad runs into millions of rands, and includes property in Zambia, where its headquarters were based. It also has a farm in Zambia, five plots in London, and houses in Washington, Germany, Sweden, and Belgium.

An ANC spokesman at the party's finance department confirmed that the ANC was getting rid of its property abroad. RAPPORT was told that there were several problems involved, such as how the money is to be brought into South Africa. Moreover, some of the

transactions are subject to taxation, and the ANC is trying to negotiate the best agreements. According to the spokesman, the properties have become redundant.

He also confirmed that the ANC was going ahead with plans to relocate to a new head office in Johannesburg. The existing head office at the controversial Shell House is said to be too large. The move was planned for April but has been postponed until October. The new center could be called Freedom Center.

**South African Press Review for 7 Apr**

*MB0704180896*

[FBIS Report]

**SUNDAY TIMES**

Business, Labor Positions Examined. — The lead editorial in the Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 7 April, page 22, summarizes the positions that organized labor and the business have taken in recent strategy documents. The paper notes "weaknesses" in both positions: "The business charter fails to say how it intends to improve domestic competitiveness and improve the quality of its management. The unions' document, meanwhile, concentrates on wealth redistribution rather than wealth creation and gives only a cursory genuflection towards improving worker productivity....A more fundamental problem arises in the unions' document. It ignores the reality of a globalised market. Thus: 'Big business has shown unpatriotic tendencies, given its clamour for the removal of exchange controls in order to move capital overseas.' Elsewhere, the document argues that trade liberalisation should be reviewed and tariff reductions should not proceed beyond that required by Gatt. Even on that point it is grudging. This misses the point. South Africa is in the world market with or without the volition of governments and workers....South African workers and managers are thus not so much in competition with each other but with the three billion other souls who produce and sell on this globe — many of them more cheaply and efficiently than we do. The starting point of this debate between bosses and workers should not be how much more for our respective sectors but how much more for all of us."

**Angola****Angola: Government Reportedly Training New Military Units**

*MB0704171296 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] There are irregularities in the quartering of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] soldiers and members of the Rapid Intervention Police and in the return of Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] personnel to the nearest barracks. Our Bailundo correspondent reports that instead of returning to barracks designated in the Bicesse Accord, FAA soldiers are being deployed in strategic areas as if they were the nearest barracks. Our source says FAA units that have not withdrawn from their positions remain on a war footing. This shows a lack of commitment to the peace process.

Our correspondent reports that withdrawing FAA units have been unearthing tanks and from trenches they are [words indistinct]. On 1 April an FAA unit left Menongue and entered UNITA-controlled territory in (Quatiri).

The government Armed Forces have been training new combat units just about everywhere in the country. An infantry unit known as the 49th Regiment, comprising about 1,000 men, was recently established in Ambriz. Military training for Air Force personnel is under way in Cape Ledo. Heavy artillery units are being trained in Cahama, Cunene Province, and special forces in Longa. An estimated 4,000 soldiers are involved in training.

**Angola: UNITA Reports on Quartering of Soldiers in Assembly Areas**

*MB0704131396 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1900 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The office monitoring the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol reports that by 5 April 1,847 National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] soldiers and 1,172 families had been quartered in the Ngove assembly area. In the (Chasongo) assembly area a total of 336 UNITA soldiers were waiting to be registered. A total of 1,330 UNITA soldiers were waiting to be registered at the Ngola assembly area. On the same day, the Quibala assembly area registered 388 UNITA soldiers and one family.

The General Staff of the UNITA Armed Forces reiterates that the quartering of its soldiers in the Ntucu assembly area will begin once government soldiers withdraw from the region.

**Angola: FAA Said To Be 'Taking Advantage' of Quartered UNITA Troops**

*MB0704131196 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1900 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] continue to commit irregularities. As they were allegedly moving to the nearest barracks, FAA soldiers occupied the Fulupita position and the Machinde Ward in Malanje Province on 3 April.

On 1 April, the FAA Command at Capemba sent a 40-man platoon on a combat mission. The 28th FAA Regiment in Capongo has only withdrawn from its command post, rather than moving all its structures to the nearest barracks.

In Huila Province on 2 April, an FAA company left Caconda and raided the Chicambi command post, 20 km from Caconda, stealing 20 head of cattle. On 3 April, an FAA company left (Chulo) and raided Nangola village, plundering the residents' property. The company subsequently burned the village.

FAA soldiers are taking advantage of quartered UNITA soldiers to operate at random. UNITA has warned the United Nations of the danger posed by this state of affairs.

**Mozambique****Mozambique: 14,500 People Facing Food Shortages in Chinde**

*MB0604133196 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] About 190 tonnes of corn are needed to assist 14,500 people affected by famine in Chinde District, south of Zambezia Province. Meanwhile, about 80 tonnes of corn will soon be earmarked to famine victims in the capital of Chinde District, which shelters 2,000 needy people. A team sent to evaluate the impact of famine in the district concluded last month that 14,500 people affected by hunger in the district urgently need about 190 tonnes of corn. Orlando Francisco, head of the Department for the Prevention and Control of Natural Disasters' planning sector, has told our correspondent that the assistance will only be granted to the district capital. [passage omitted]



**Mozambique: Editorial Questions U.S. Demand for Compensation**

*MB0604194496 Maputo MEDIAFAX in Portuguese  
3 Apr 96 p 3*

[Editorial: "And Who Pays Us?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States wants Mozambique to pay for the U.S. corn stolen at the port of Maputo. And the Swedes are being paid \$1.4 million from state funds in the case of the Emergency Seeds and Agricultural Tools Program.

In other words, the country is facing a three-pronged attack: from domestic thieves; from donors whom it must pay; and from foreign thieves who take natural resources from Mozambique worth \$200-\$300 million annually.

Who pays these millions of dollars? Nobody pays us, and yet we have to face two other attacks. One is of a moral nature: The world blames the huge theft of our resources solely on domestic corruption, as if the rest of the world were honest people. The other attack: It does not occur to our creditors to deduct \$200-\$300 million annually from our foreign debt.

Let us put the issue as follows: Has the \$200-\$300 million that they steal from us annually — Spain alone must be taking a few millions in prawns — benefited U.S. operators? It certainly has — and in excess of the \$240,000 that Washington wishes to charge us for the stolen corn.

The Nordic countries and the United States are entitled to demand those payments. But if it becomes a pattern, the only ones that will applaud the measure will be the thieves — the ones we have at home and those abroad who amass fortunes from our precious stones, timber, prawns, and so on.

That is not how we can fight the theft from within and outside our borders. Obviously, Mozambique railways and ports must tighten security in their precincts. Likewise, the government must in no uncertain terms distance itself from economic crimes, and our legal system must wake up; otherwise all its members will be without a job. In fact, U.S. pressure on the question of corn might have helped influential circles to introduce positive changes.

But donors must be careful not to squeeze too tightly. The fight against theft in Mozambique must rely on local resources — not foreign pressure alone. The latter should complement the former, lest it acquires the unmistakable flavor of foreign domination. That might not be the intention, but it will be the end result.

Theft, gangsterism, and chaotic economic relations have a logic of their own. One must counter that. And in the pages of this news sheet we have been advocating decisive steps in that direction, notably to shift international aid funds from institutions involved in illegal practices to departments that have proven to be honest in their dealings.

The Swedish are about to take the first step by withdrawing their funding from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. One must take the second and third steps and give credit directly to the productive sector of the economy. In doing so, the amount of money and the number of jobs in the formal sector will be able to begin countering the virtual monopoly held by the informal sector. It is one thing to be right, and another to be effectively so.

Let us put together what the world steals from us annually and the extremely high percentage of the money lent to Mozambique that returns to donor countries in the form of salaries paid to foreign technicians. By adding the two amounts we will come up with a figure quite different from the official one regarding our balance of payments.

Once an appeal is made to donors to think of an effective way of fighting crime domestically and abroad, we must turn our full attention to what is happening here at home. Moreover, as long as we have the strength to do it, we must insist that the government and the Mozambique Liberation Front Party understand once and for all that theft, fraud, drug deals, and the consent to the plundering of our natural resources only lead to the destruction of our society. The unbridled amassing of fortunes by a few will be pointless. Those who make their bank accounts fatter will stab them in the back once the country is chronically weak.

**Namibia**

**Namibia: Food Shortages Driving Angolan Troops To Poach in Caprivi**

*MB0604191496 Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN  
in English 29 Mar 96 pp 1, 2*

[Report by Kyle Owen-Smith]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Poaching and illegal arms dealing in the West Caprivi Game Reserve has escalated in the past year into what local leaders describe as a crisis situation.

Most of the illegal hunting can be attributed to UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] soldiers who regularly cross the Angolan border seeking food and medical supplies.

A senior UNITA officer interviewed on the Angolan border said UNITA troops were starving and desperate. No food had been received since 1992. "We have no food or medicine. People are dying."

Elephant and buffalo are among the scores of valuable game species that have been killed and residents of West Caprivi fear that their most valuable resource, wildlife, will be destroyed if effective action is not taken urgently.

Game-rich West Caprivi is one of the areas which has the potential to earn a major income for its residents once Namibia's new communal areas conservation policy is implemented.

"We are distressed at this slaughter of our wild animals. Wildlife holds our greatest future economic potential and we see it being wasted before our eyes," Chief Kippie George, leader of the 7,000 Barakwena and Vasekaele people living in West Caprivi, said at Bagani.

Chief George said that community game guards, funded by a community-based conservation project in Caprivi, had confiscated more than 70 automatic firearms, mainly AK47s since January 1995.

Most of these illegal weapons had been "sold" to West Caprivians for bags of maize which the UNITA soldiers take back to Angola. Weapons confiscated by the community game guards had been handed to the police. [passage omitted]

Despite evidence of escalating poaching and illegal trade in arms, the authorities in West Caprivi appear to have had little success in bringing the situation under control. Local officials in the police and Ministry of Environment blame a lack of resource and coordination.

A UNITA colonel said it was not his movement's policy to poach or to trade in arms in Namibia, but he added that soldiers violated orders because of severe food shortages in south-eastern Angola, where food aid has been a scarcity.

Local chief Kippie George said uncontrolled poaching could destroy opportunities for local people to make a living out of the legal utilisation of wildlife.

### Zambia

#### **Zambia: Former President Threatens To Break Law Over Candidacy**

MB0504174096 (Internet) ZAMBIA TODAY  
in English 5 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Former Republican President, Kenneth Kaunda, says he is ready to break the Zambian law should the new Republican Constitution bar him

under the clause requiring candidates to be at least second generation Zambians. Dr. Kaunda, who only renounced his Malawian nationality in 1970 when he was already President of Zambia, says he is ready to go to jail over the new clause warning ominously that when that happens government should expect to reap the whirlwind. Dr. Kaunda was addressing public rallies at Chimutende and Vulamkoko in Mkaika Parliamentary of Katete district in the Eastern [Province] where a bye-election is due to take place on April 12 and where his party UNIP [United National Independence Party] is drumming up support for their candidate, Bernard Phiri, who is contesting the Mkaika constituency.

"Let people choose what they want. If they want to stop me from standing as a Presidential candidate this year I will break the law and go to jail for it," the 72 year old former head of state declared. He said he would not regret if he lost the Presidential race with fairness but warned Government would feel the wrath of the Zambian people should he be jailed for breaking the law.

Dr. Kaunda will have to surmount two stout hurdles should the draft Mwanakatwe Republican Constitution go through the next sitting of Parliament. Apart from limiting the candidature of future President to second generation Zambians, there is also a clause in the new Constitution which restricts terms of office for future presidents to only two five year terms. On his part Dr. Kaunda had been in office for more than five five-year terms running close to three decades — most of which was under the much despised one-party rule. The former President also repeated his earlier announcement that he intends to establish a "truth commission" should his party win the coming presidential and parliamentary elections.

The commission is to investigate the wealth of present leaders and the manner in which they had conducted affairs of state, he said. The idea has already been dismissed by government as 'a non-starter' and potential waste of resources. Information and Broadcasting Minister, who is also Chief Government Spokesman, Amusaa Mwanamwambwa says Zambia does not deserve a truth commission because her history is totally different from that of South Africa where Dr. Kaunda is copying his ideas from. Mr. Mwanamwambwa says the idea is as preposterous as that of a government of national unity because unlike South Africa Zambia has always been a unitary state with harmony between races and tribes. "We do not hate anybody but the public simply wants to know how some of the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] leaders have enriched themselves as some of them were poor before the ruling party came into office in 1991," he said.

The former was booted out of office in 1991, after 27 years in office of President, during elections held in October and overseen by international observers who included former American President Jimmy Carter. Afterwards these observers certified the elections, which M. Frederick Chiluba and his party MMD bounce into office [as published], free and fair but Dr. Kaunda complained that MMD had used some means to rig the elections adding that many of his staunch supporters — the women — had not cast their votes.

**Zambia: Government Reacts to Former President's Threats**

MB0504174196 (Internet) ZAMBIA TODAY  
in English 5 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Home Affairs Minister, Chitalu Sampa, Friday [5 April] warned that the law will not spare anyone agitating for violence in the country. Reacting to Former President Kenneth Kaunda's insistence that he was ready to break the law if the new constitution stopped him from contesting the forth-coming presidential and parliamentary elections, Mr. Sampa warned of "stern" measures for anyone wanting to cause trouble. He said if the new constitution is adopted then everyone will be expected to respect it. Mr. Sampa advised Zambians not to listen to "tired" politicians adding that the best people in Mkaika will vote peacefully when the time comes.

The bye-election is due to be held in Mkaika on April 12 following the loss of petition by former UNIP [United National Independence Party] Member of Parliament, Mr. Josephat Mulewa. "I have no time to waste on the old man's baseless comments because he has nothing to offer in terms of politics," he said.

Dr. Kaunda has gone on record as telling voters in Chimutende and Vulamkoko in public meeting in Katete district, vowed that he would break the law if he was barred from contesting the forthcoming elections. [sentence as published]

**Zambia: Injuries Reported in Clash Between Political Parties**

MB0704160796 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1227 GMT 7 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] LUSAKA April 7 SAPA-DPA — Several youths were injured and vehicles destroyed in a clash between supporters of two rival parties in Katete, 600 kilometres east of Lusaka, according to reports Sunday [7 April].

The opposition United National Independence Party (UNIP), led by former president Kenneth Kaunda, and the ruling Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD)

are both campaigning in the area for their candidates in next week's by-elections.

Two truckloads of parliamentary police from the provincial capital, Chipata, were sent to the area to restore order, reports said.

A police spokesman said five MMD youths were injured in the clash Saturday [6 April] and 12 UNIP supporters were arrested but released after an official complaint by senior UNIP party officials.

**Zambia: UNIP Blamed for 'Black Mamba' Threats**

MB0604132096 (Internet) ZAMBIA TODAY  
in English 4 Apr 96

[Article by Gunston Chola: "'Black Mamba'— 'Zero Option' Activated"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Few Zambians know that "black mamba" was UNIP [United National Independence Party] President, Kenneth Kaunda's nickname during Zambia's struggle for independence. And if ever Dr. Kaunda thought he had shed off his villainous tag at Zambia's independence, the emergence of this shadowy group — black mamba — has totally destroyed this notion. It seems someone somewhere does not like Dr. Kaunda very much or he loves him so much as to renew his infamous activities many years later through a disreputable organization whose aim is to destroy Zambia and obliterate what Dr. Kaunda fought for.

Black Mamba has already struck in Zambia. Its widely circulated hate mail to MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] leaders and news editors of selected media organizations is a scaremongering scheme directed at blocking the constitution which bars Dr. Kaunda's return to active politics. MMD general-secretary, Michael Sata, has already isolated UNIP and Zambia Democratic Congress (ZDC), because of their reported penchant for violence, as likely authors of the letters behind the group whose activities has forced the Zambia Police to put up a reward of K2.5 million [kwacha] to anyone with information that might lead to the capture of those involved. Police Inspector-General Francis Ndhlovu while stressing his force was not taking anything for granted, has appealed to the recipients of these hate-mail not to open any suspicious looking mail especially those stamped "Woodlands Post Office". "We shall now rely on members of the public and elimination through forensic science. These letters are signed in red ink by the same 'chairman' and police still expect more of these letters," he said.

As was expected both UNIP and ZDC have dismissed Mr. Sata's statement but still maintain a war-like stance. Already more than 10 MPs among them ministers and



their deputies have received these poison pen letters that demand that the draft Mwanakatwe constitution be adopted by a constituent assembly and not Parliament. Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Energy Ernest Mwansa, who received his on Monday (1 April) was aghast with the letter which also insults the Head of State. "The only thing that saddens me is the way people can go to such extent because of their lust for power," he said. The authors are barely trying to ill-disguise their true identity by their weak portrayal of being former MMD cadres discontented with the present Government but hell bent on achieving their goal in ensuring Dr. Kaunda stands and wins the presidency. "We are the black mambas. Our mission is to sort out some MMD idiots who think they can impose upon this nation whatever rubbish is in their heads because of self deceit that they had received in 1991 an overwhelming mandate from the people of Zambia."

"We need not remind you that some of us were contracted to rig the elections. We agreed then because we believed that the Kaunda regime was corrupt and despotic but we are now convinced that you are worse off than Kaunda."

"We are not going to sit idly by while you (insult to President Chiluba) impose MMD tailor-made constitution. If you ignore this warning all hell will break loose. We don't rule out total elimination of President Chiluba, Christopher Chawinga (provincial chairman of MMD in Lusaka), B.Y (Mwila — Defense Minister) Michael Sata...." says the letter dated March 22, 1996 and signed by "Dendroastis Polyletis Snake".

The issue of these poison letters circulating in Zambia was first broached to the MMD cadres meeting in Kitwe at the week-end by the Minister of Labor and Social Services Newstead Zimba at Buchi Hall. Mr. Zimba wondered who would be behind such threats and asked the cadres to take them seriously and be on the lookout because politics with the re-entry of Kaunda had taken on an ominous shape. Indeed who could be responsible? Who stands to gain if Zambia was engulfed in turmoil? And who would profit if the contentious clause was removed from the Mwanakatwe constitution or affected if it went through? All the fingers point to the UNIP and to a lesser extent their cohorts in the alliance to topple the MMD Government which they cannot do in proper elections. The same words have been spoken at the constitutional debate on ZNBC [Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation].

The comment by Dr. Kaunda's assistant for Press Muhabi Lungu accusing Mr. Sata of being a liar in the expose of these letters does not help much. UNIP stands accused for the following reasons:

— Apart from the group assuming the pseudonym of the party's leader, UNIP in particular has been in the forefront of fanning anarchy and preaching the sermons of hatred, civil disobedience that Dr. Kaunda has likened Zambia becoming another Rwanda if he was not allowed to stand;

— No other party apart from UNIP whose president only renounced his Malawian nationality in 1971 is affected by the clause requiring a second generation Zambian for President;

— Only UNIP has documented proof of threatening violence even on Pressmen (TIMES OF ZAMBIA news editor Hicks Sikazwe was personally threatened by UNIP Central Committee Member Stanley Muntanga; then again ZNBC Television Personality Luckson Nthani was sent death threats after he produced a brilliant documentary on the State House tunnels on which Kaunda had spent hundreds of millions of dollars for the safety of African nationalists who today don't even want to hear the name Zambia mentioned); and

— It is UNIP who planned the "Zero Option" plan and its radical program which was meant to usurp power.

A local proverb talks of the day the old man vanishes from the village and the hyena drops white stuff. Similarly the coincidences since UNIP started sermonizing violence are just too many to be brushed aside. At every platform Dr. Kaunda each time he opens his mouth is to warn of violence unless he stood and won. Some time this year UNIP Copperbelt youth official Isaac Zgambo was reported to have warned MMD members of Parliament on the Copperbelt not to venture into the province if they voted to ensure the passage of the new constitution.

Who is Zgambo but a nondescript character who should thank the MMD for bringing up democracy which they are abusing? Who stands to gain and should Zambians wonder that the so-called (?plotters) were only targeting MMD MPs and not UNIP or National Party?

The church also believes the buck stops at some UNIP thugs. And some charismatic Christians talked to said after much prayer in their closets, they were aware of an individual who has now shored up in himself evil demon spirits to try and destabilize Zambia.

"The name of one of his demons is 'sibo' and as a Satan worshiper, he is chanting to the devil (Lucifer) to bring about civil disobedience and a food crisis for the Zambian people to rise against the MMD Government hence the locusts and large grain borers threatening our crop but we are praying against him and against what the devil is trying to bring about.

"This time the Lord may even smite the evil man as he did King Herod. Almighty God is on the side of President Chiluba by his faith in him and all those behind the black mamba won't succeed because only Christians have all the power in Jesus' name," revealed a Lusaka based evangelist.

Mr. Levy Mwansa, another UNIP official on the Copperbelt recently said his party had worked out a plan which would make this country ungovernable in the event Dr. Kaunda was not allowed to stand. Who in the higher echelons of the party has come out to clarify these statements? None. It is too much of a coincidence then that when Dr. Kaunda tells the nation of the stalled work on the new Soweto Market complex and when work starts a catastrophe befalls the building group. The poisoning of the more than 100 soldiers who were detailed to work on the site at the same time that the black mamba letters are circulating should not be treated in isolation. The same should be attached to the poison calls that were directed at the Swedish ambassador Mr. Anders Johnson's wife, Annie Marie. Indeed if UNIP was for peace why go to such extremes?

As part and parcel of the opposition process the Catholic church in Zambia should share the chaos that is brewing up through its involvement at the secretariat and Dean Mung'omba for his call to disrupt the elections this year. The threats and insults hailed at the nation's leadership and in particular the President is something that the church should not seem to condone. But what has happened? The bishops in their mistaken feeling of infallibility have been hoodwinked by individuals with personal agenda to sway the entire thinking of the church to think that Zambians were for the adoption of the constitution by constituent assembly. In any case why should the adoption be the issue instead of what is contained in the document? Should this country be ruled by a half Masai, half Tonga? Where are the full blooded Zambians? A close look at those surrounding Dr. Kaunda will show cross pollination. Many are from Malawi. The same goes for those advocating for a constituent assembly in the NGOs. Where are the real Zambians? Why stand aloof when a clique with one leg in Malawi or in Zimbabwe is putting more logs on the fire?

The latest TIME magazine has an interesting article for Africa and Zambia in particular, revenge of the big men, and fear Africa was sliding back to the pre-colonial levels.

"Far from advancing toward democracy some observers fear the continent may be slipping backward to the days of the one party state. Already two ghosts from the repressive '70s and '80s are staging comebacks.

"Zambia's Kenneth Kaunda, who after 27 years of rule left office in 1991 with his economy in disarray, threatens to stand again in elections later this year," the magazine says. There is circumstantial evidence, following a pattern that some UNIP thugs are well behind the black mamba group. They must give the nation ample proof that they are not.

#### **Zambia: South African Plan To Use Zambezi Water Causes Concern**

*MB0604164396 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0500 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A South African proposal to draw water from the Zambezi, Africa's fourth largest river, has created panic in at least one of the eight nations that share the waterway.

Zambia is worried about the proposed construction of a canal from the river to Gauteng in South Africa. According to the Zambians the canal would ferry about 4.5 billion cubic meters of Zambezi water per year, and is not environmentally friendly. However, South African water affairs officials say the plan is only one of many proposals they are considering.

### **Zimbabwe**

#### **Zimbabwe: VP Nkomo Claims AIDS 'Harvested by Whites' To Wipe Out Blacks**

*MB0704131596 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1519 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] BULAWAYO April 5 SAPA — Zimbabwe Vice-President Joshua Nkomo on Saturday [6 April] said his son had died of AIDS, an epidemic that was "harvested by whites to obliterate black people". White people were also hiding a cure for the disease, the ZIANA national news agency reported Nkomo as saying.

Nkomo was addressing hundreds of mourners, including President Robert Mugabe at the funeral of his son Ernest, who died of respiratory complications at the age of 41 in a Harare hospital on Wednesday [3 April].

AIDS was brought to Zimbabwe by white people intending to wipe out the black population and take their land and wealth, an emotional Nkomo said.

"Unfortunately it backfired because they too are dying of it but still they have the knowledge of its origins and how it can be cured. But they just do not want to share that knowledge."

Nkomo appealed to Mugabe to instruct medical experts to expedite research into the origins of AIDS and seek

methods of curing it before it wiped out the nation. "What is this thing? Where did it come from? God give us the knowledge to fight this disease."

About 10 per cent of Zimbabwe's 10.5-million population is infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the infectious agent that causes AIDS.

Some 150,000 Zimbabweans have full-blown AIDS of whom 300 die each week.

The funeral was held at the family cemetery at Kezi district in Matabeleland South.



## Liberia

### Liberia: Bid To Arrest Faction Leader Sparks Shooting in Monrovia

AB0604125096 Paris AFP in English  
1124 GMT 6 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, April 6 (AFP) — Liberian security forces clashed early Saturday [6 April] with supporters of ousted faction leader Roosevelt Johnson, currently facing murder charges, police said.

The sound of shelling and automatic rifle fire was heard across the capital during the night as police attempted to arrest Johnson, the former leader of the Krahn wing of the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO-J), who had failed to comply with an order by Liberia's ruling council of state to turn himself in by mid-afternoon Friday to answer charges of murder.

The northeastern Sinkor district of Monrovia, where Johnson and other Liberian leaders live, was sealed off by security forces early Saturday.

Police told AFP a special task force, the rapid response unit (RRU), was ordered to arrest Johnson early Saturday but clashed with loyalists of the ousted faction leader when they tried to carry out their orders.

No casualty figures or official statement on the incident have been released.

An AFP correspondent saw hundreds of residents in the vicinity moving out with bundles of belongings, including mattresses and cooking utensils.

"We did not sleep last night because of the shooting," said one panic-stricken resident of Monrovia, which has been under curfew since 1992.

"What frightens us more is reports that some fighters of (a rival) faction leader Charles Taylor have joined the RRU to help arrest Johnson," the resident said.

Other residents who decided not to move for fear of exposing their homes to looters, remained indoors.

Security forces have meanwhile sealed off more than 1,000 meters (yards) of the main boulevard linking the city centre with Sinkor.

However, the rest of Monrovia and all its suburbs were calm.

The council dismissed Johnson two weeks ago from his post as minister of rural development after senior ULIMO-J commanders ousted him as the faction's leader.

Murder charges followed the death outside Johnson's house on March 22 of a man loyal to his replacement, William Karyee.

Johnson has since barricaded himself into his home and resisted arrest.

As ULIMO-J's leader, Johnson was a signatory to a peace accord signed last August aimed at ending a civil war ignited late 1989 and in which at least 150,000 people died.

ULIMO-J has since been accused of ceasefire violations on several occasions

### Liberia: Angry Protesters Blockade Roads to Johnson's House

AB0504165196 London BBC World Service  
in English 1505 GMT 5 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There is apparently considerable chaos in the suburb of Sinkor in Liberia's capital, Monrovia, today. Yesterday, the authorities evacuated the district around the home of ousted ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson faction] leader, Roosevelt Johnson, as the midnight deadline approached for him to give himself up on murder charges following a shoot-out near his house two weeks ago. The plan was for security forces to winkle Johnson out overnight. Nothing happened, but seemingly empty houses fell prey to looters that caused an angry backlash and Sinkor has been virtually isolated from the rest of the city. From Monrovia, Nyenati Allison telexed this report:

Hundreds of angry youths, whose parents were ordered to leave the neighborhood surrounding Roosevelt Johnson's home last night, blockaded the eastern suburb of Sinkor today, demanding that the government compensate them for their property that was stolen during the night. They carried sticks, stones, and traditional weapons and set up roadblocks using wrecked cars, cement blocks, and old tree trunks which paralyzed all businesses in the suburb. Traffic in and out of the suburb remained impossible for most of the day, preventing State Council members Charles Taylor, Alhaji Koromah, and Chairman Wilton Sankawolo from entering the city center to work.

Worshippers coming in to celebrate Good Friday [5 April] were also affected and forced to travel an extra 12 miles to the northern Gardensville suburb. The protesters accused Johnson's supporters of breaking into their homes and stealing their property. One angry protector shouted: The government asked us to leave our homes and yet they have failed to arrest Johnson. Where did they expect us to stay? Supporters of Roosevelt Johnson also set a barricade in one section of the suburb, protecting their leader, who has remained held up in

his beach house for the past three weeks. They painted inscriptions on the walls of private homes in the area. One inscription screamed: No Johnson, no Monrovia, while another read: Any attempt to arrest Johnson will be resisted.

Meanwhile, African peacekeeping troops sealed off the nearby home of State Council Chairman Wilton Sankawolo from the advance of angry mobs carrying sticks, while later on sympathizers of the aggrieved crowded Monrovia's back streets, setting up additional roadblocks and preventing travelers from reaching the airport.

**Liberia: Rebels Continue Monrovia Fight; Johnson Barricaded in Home**

AB0604175696 Paris AFP in English  
1731 GMT 6 Apr 96

[By James Dorbor]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, April 6 (AFP) — Liberian rebels Saturday [6 April] broke through to the centre of the capital Monrovia where sporadic shooting could be heard and armed groups set up roadblocks, looted buildings and harassed citizens, an AFP correspondent reported.

The rebels believed to be supporters of "General" Roosevelt Johnson, the former leader of the Krahn wing of the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO-J), broke into vehicles in central areas of the city.

Johnson, meanwhile, had barricaded himself into his home in the northeastern Sinkor district of the capital, blocked off by security forces attempting to arrest him on murder charges.

"No Johnson, no Monrovia," teenaged ULIMO-J supporters were heard chanting in the city centre.

One witness told AFP around 5:00 P.M. (1700 GMT) that fighters were shooting at random into the air while looting the home of a top Liberian businessman.

The fighters were dismantling vehicles to later sell them as spare parts, the witness said in a telephone conversation.

Reporters said the fighters were also harassing residents fleeing to calmer suburbs.

The African peacekeeping force ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] has sealed off the Mamba Point area, which houses the headquarters of most United Nations and other agencies.

ECOMOG troops were also deployed around the Liberian telecommunications building.

Earlier in the day residents deserted the streets when fighters began shooting into the air in the city centre.

Many had fled Sinkor where shelling and automatic rifle fire were heard the previous night. Buildings in the district were torched later Saturday, witnesses said.

A rapid response unit of Liberia's police force moved into Johnson's home at dawn after he failed to give himself up to authorities as ordered by the ruling council of state.

The unit was confronted by Johnson loyalists and has not yet been able to arrest Johnson himself.

One witness told AFP the house of police director Joe Tate had burned down. Tate had been nominated to his post by Charles Taylor, who leads a rival faction to ULIMO-J.

Johnson has accused Tate of recruiting fighters of Taylor's National Patriotic Liberation Front into the rapid reaction unit.

No casualty figures nor official statement has been released on Saturday's incidents.

Liberia's council of state sacked Johnson two weeks ago as minister of rural development after a majority of ULIMO-J commanders ousted him as the faction's leader.

The murder charge against Johnson followed the death outside his house on March 22 of a man loyal to his replacement, William Kayree.

As ULIMO-J's leader, Johnson was a signatory to a peace accord in August aimed at ending a civil war that flared in late 1989 and which has left at least 150,000 people dead.

ULIMO-J has since been accused of ceasefire violations on several occasions.

Last December 20 ECOMOG troops died in the northeastern town of Tubmanburg when the peacekeepers were attacked by ULIMO-J fighters.

The incident led ECOMOG to halt its nationwide deployment exercise, which was due to precede the disarmament of some 60,000 fighters of various factions scattered across the west African country.

**Liberia: Ex-Warlord Taylor Says Johnson Must Stand Trial for Murder**

LD0704161396 Paris Radio France International  
in French 0730 GMT 7 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Thousands of inhabitants of Monrovia fled their homes yesterday after a night of

clashes between the security forces and the men of the rebel or ex-rebel leader, General Roosevelt Johnson, the head of Ulimo-Krahn [Krahn wing of former Ulimo-J, United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson].

Johnson must be arrested and must appear before a court to answer charges of murder, Charles Taylor — one of the three former warlords sitting on the Council of State — has even said on the radio.

For his part, the commander in chief of ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] has committed himself to restoring law and order in the Liberian capital, where violence yesterday afternoon spread as far as the city center.

**Liberia: BBC Interviews Taylor on Monrovia Battles**

AB0604180796 London BBC World Service  
in English 1705 GMT 6 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hell has been let loose again today in the Sinkor suburb of Liberia's capital, Monrovia. There are reports of heavy clashes between security forces of the interim government and fighters loyal to Roosevelt Johnson, the ousted leader of the ULIMO-K [United Liberation Movement For Democracy in Liberia-Krahn] warring faction. There is a warrant out for Johnson's arrest in connection with the killing outside his house two weeks ago. Johnson won't come out. Houses near Johnson's home have been evacuated, other people have fled apparently in their thousands, and there are reports of other factions are getting involved in the conflict such as the LPC [Liberia Peace Council]. A ruling council member, Charles Taylor of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] called us up this afternoon about the Sinkor fighting. Timothy Ecott asked him how many casualties there had been.

[Begin recording] [Taylor] No, we don't have a readout on that yet. We are all monitoring the situation and by that I mean the Council of State — the chairman and my colleague Alhaji Koromah, Chief Tamba Taylor, and myself — have all been monitoring and we are in constant communication and now we are in charge as the collective presidency here. And, you know, when it is all over, the military will come in with the report.

[Ecott] We've had reports that your men and Alhaji Koromah's men have been mustering around your respective residences. Is there any danger your men will get involved in this fighting at Johnson's house?

[Taylor] Well no. The action at this time is being carried out by the police. The government has an obligation to make sure that the police is equipped to carry out its lawful duties; and this is what is going on. As individuals from ULIMO or the National Patriotic Front, we are not going to get involved as parties, but the government is going to support the national police, the unit responsible for these types of terrorist activities, and to make sure that it can carry out the job and do it well by arresting Mr. Johnson and bringing his living body before a court of competent jurisdiction.

[Ecott] What about if the LPC were to choose ... [pauses] to take sides with Roosevelt Johnson? Will the NPFL then want to get involved?

[Taylor] Well, for your information the LPC has taken sides. Elements from one of our colleagues on the Council of State have advanced on the street. There is heavy firing all over the city; they have burned down several buildings, and gas stations, and installations. This is just a ruthless, bad batch of lawless individuals that are out there. And if this government is ever to do anything about restoring peace to this country, it has to make sure that we can maintain peace and security on the ground, and we will do so.

[Ecott] But it obviously looks to people on the outside as if this is a situation that could deteriorate badly and Monrovia could slip back into all-out civil war?

[Taylor] No, I don't think so. I think these actions are not individual actions. I want to make it very clear: This is not an act by a warring faction against Johnson; this is the Government of the Republic of Liberia acting and in no way can this government see this city slipping into chaos. We are going to take whatever actions the government sees necessary in line with the laws of this Republic to make sure that peace is maintained.

[Ecott] But can you see a situation where your men have to be brought in to back up those other forces in order to secure the result you want?

[Taylor] Well, I'll tell you: One can never be too sure. If for some reason again the government decides on additional action, it is the Council of State that will have to take that decision. The decision now is for the police to bring Mr. Johnson to justice and until there is a change in that I do not want to speculate. [end recording]

Liberian ruling council member Charles Taylor of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia]. Well, he is, of course, a warring faction leader himself. But, what of the local citizens fleeing the bullets in chaos in Sinkor, having their homes looted and destroyed while clashes continue and the ECOMOG [Economic Community



of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping force stands by? One angry resident is John Wyle-Brownell of the Southeastern Youth Movement for National Unity. He called us up, and Tom Porteous asked him what other factions were getting involved in the Sinkor conflict.

[Begin recording] [Wyle-Brownell] Fighters of all warring factions in this town, Monrovia, are now being involved in this fighting. We see people with all uniforms, they have not been identified.

[Porteus] Is ECOMOG involved in the fighting?

[Wyle-Brownell] No, not at all. ECOMOG is not involved. ECOMOG has withdrawn from those areas. So, this is why we are making a passionate appeal to the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] chairman, His Excellency Jerry John Rawlings, to please, to please, please, urgently see what he can do to mandate ECOMOG to take control of the security situation in Monrovia, right now as we are speaking to you, please.

[Porteus] But, surely, the whole purpose of this operation in Sinkor at the moment is to arrest Roosevelt Johnson, and that is all. Once he is arrested, then the forces will withdraw and peace will return?

[Wyle-Brownell] If this is so, then we don't think that this is the right procedure, because we see people wearing all uniforms, they are displaying arms. So, who is arresting who there we don't know, because there are all proliferation of warring factions or exclusive gun bullets down there. [sentence as heard] So, we think ECOMOG should take complete control to disarm everybody within Monrovia. Please, this is our passionate appeal to the ECOWAS chairman. They have done well for this country, and we don't want this effort to go in vain. So, we are begging them to please, please, please let them be decisive to give ECOMOG the mandate to take care of the security of Monrovia, and disarm everybody including all warlords.

[Porteus] Do you have any idea how many people have been killed so far in this current operation?

[Wyle-Brownell] Look, I am speaking to you... [pauses] the situation is a gun battle situation, we can't get in there. We tried to get in there. I saw four or five persons being killed. We represent the youth of this nation, and we think we cannot sit by and allow our people to be massacred like this. The poor people are suffering, they have gone out of their houses; they are taking to the roads in the thousands; and now, where are they going? Do we create a homeless situation again here in Monrovia? We think this is wrong. And, we think those warlords should be brought to their senses. We think

now they have overstepped their mandate. We think the Liberian people made this utmost sacrifice to have them here, you know, to give up the guns, but now we think they are now using these guns to make us hostage. They are now using the guns to displace us, and create a homeless situation within Monrovia. [end recording]

#### **Liberia: ULIMO-K's Koromah Interviewed on Situation**

*AB0704182396 London BBC World Service  
in English 1705 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The fighting in the Liberian capital has dragged on into a second day today. West African ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-fire Monitoring Group] troops are apparently not involved at the moment, but it follows an order to the police from two members of Liberia's ruling Council of State. The faction leaders, Charles Taylor of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and Alhaji Koromah of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] for the arrest of Roosevelt Johnson, who has been deposed as leader of ULIMO-J. Since shooting broke out around Johnson's house at the suburb of Sinkor yesterday morning, his mainly Krahn forces have been joined by elements from George Bolley's Liberia Peace Council [LPC], and from the Armed Forces of Liberia [AFL]. On the line to Liberia, Timothy Ecott asked Alhaji Koromah if Roosevelt Johnson was still at large:

[Begin recording] [Koromah] He has gotten out of his house. I guess he was smuggled out into some unknown place and the entire area has been cleared out by police and security forces, and what happened last night was that his people went into the center of Monrovia on a looting spree, which is very, very bad. They burned a couple of houses and were shooting all over the place. Unfortunately, ECOMOG has withdrawn from central Monrovia, but during the night they carried two Mohawks into the BTC, which is the Barclay Training Center, the barracks. I was told this morning that some ECOMOG soldiers are being held hostage by the Krahn people in the barracks there. So what we have done now is to put the police together again and to make them clear out the city of these looters with weapons. So we believe that very soon the whole matter will be settled.

[Ecott] Are you specifically blaming the AFL and the LPC for all the fighting?

[Koromah] We cannot say AFL any longer because the AFL is the national Army. But elements of the AFL that belong to the Krahn ethnic group.... [pauses] You know

LPC, ULIMO-J, and predominantly AFL are all Krahn people. So they have combined, irrespective of name, to carry on some of these acts.

[Ecott] Doesn't the night's events and your inability to bring Roosevelt Johnson into custody just prove that the provisional government has no power?

[Koromah] No, it is not a question of breaking down because the government has been able to contain the security situation in most parts of the city and including where the heavy fighting was yesterday in the Sinkor area, all of those places have been put under control, and now we are just trying to ... [pauses] The police are trying now to contain them near the BTC where they have held some ECOMOG people as hostage. But I can tell you ...

[Ecott, interrupting] But Mr. Koromah, are you saying that the city is under control because the reports say that the fighting is continuing. Is it now peaceful?

[Koromah] I am telling you that it is in the process of being put under control. The fighting is not all over the place; it is confined to the proximity of the Barclay Training Center, which is the main base of the AFL and therefore of their ethnic group. So we are trying to see how that area can be contained.

[Ecott] But Mr. Koromah, the fact remains that Roosevelt Johnson remains at large and your well-publicized attempts to place him under arrest have come to nothing.

[Koromah] Well, it came to something. You know, you people must realize that we are not just here to fight all the time and to create chaos. We have given Mr. Johnson the opportunity to give himself up. We could have gotten to him the first day of the announcement. I think this demonstrates that the government is trying to exert its authority to make sure that things are normal in this capital, which is considered the biggest safe haven of Liberia.

[Ecott] But things simply aren't normal, are they? And isn't there a danger that Mr. Johnson will now rally people behind him in the countryside and you will be back to square one?

[Koromah] No, we will not be at square one, he will not rally anybody anywhere, and we are in the process of putting things under control. This whole country before the Johnson thing was not normal, any way, you should know that after six years, we are in the state of abnormality, we have been fighting. So, a lot of things will happen, but this is part of the challenge. So we are in the process of normalizing things, and there is nothing so strange or peculiar about that.

[Ecott] But the fact remains that Johnson is still at large.

[Koromah] Yeah, what do you want me to do? I mean, you want us to search every house, every little swamp, and everywhere?

[Ecott] How many people were killed in this weekend's fighting?

[Koromah] Well, I don't know, but not too many people. We have gotten reports of one or two persons here and there, but we don't see the streets littered with dead bodies and things like that. [end recording]

**Liberia: ULIMO-K's Koromah Interviewed on Situation, Abuja Accord**

AB0804101296 London BBC World Service  
in English 0630 GMT 8 Apr 96

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBI'S Transcribed Text] Well, it is the worst situation breakdown in Liberia in three years. Since the shooting broke out around Roosevelt Johnson's home on Saturday [6 April] morning, his mainly Krahn forces have been joined by elements of George Boley's Liberian Peace Council and also by armed Liberian police. As the situation stands, the Abuja Accord signed by the six-member ruling council looks very shaky. On the line to Monrovia last night, Tim Ecott asked the leader of ULIMO-K [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Koromah faction]. Alhaji Koromah, if this marked the end of the Abuja Accord.

[Begin recording] [Koromah] No, no, no, to the contrary; you will know from the history of this war that lots of people were bitter enemies. Abuja has strength because it is showing the unity of the government, because if every group was fighting every other group, then you would see the situation of anarchy and chaos. But what is happening here is that a single desperado group is being put under control. So, that shows that government is unified and has direction.

[Ecott] So your alliance with Charles Taylor is firm and nothing will endanger that?

[Koromah] I do not call it alliance. We signed an agreement in Abuja to have a government of participation — participatory government. Everybody is in the government, one way or the other and so the government is acting as a government, so there is no special alliance. It is just a question of going by the agreement and what is expected of the government of Liberia by the people in the country.

[Ecott] But this weekend's developments and Mr. Johnson's escape must represent a serious threat to your government and to peace, would they not?



[Koromah] Well, it is a threat to peace. That is why we are dealing with it. We consider it a challenge. A lot of threat to peace is here and outside of Liberia, but there is the possibility of the government and the citizenry and people to meet all those challenges that would make life complex. We are prepared to meet the challenges and by the way, [words indistinct] flexible. We are not here to go out on witch-hunting, etc. Whatever peaceful means that Johnson or anybody supporting him wants to bring out, we are open to it, but definitely, we will not sit here and allow this town to turn into an anarchical situation which means that out of this particular situation, you have the most solid foundation for peace to come.

[Ecott] But if you cannot control one unruly individual, how do you expect people to take your government seriously?

[Koromah] Now, you consider that one unruly individual when you, yourself, have listed the number of people and groups that are involved? Of course not. You cannot [words indistinct], I mean you cannot control the IRA. I mean, do you expect the people not to consider the British Government seriously? Look, you people must try to be understanding and know that a tragedy is going on. It is a challenge because they are lawless and is [as heard] being brought under control, you understand? ... it is a challenge and it is being met. So, people are taking [words indistinct] seriously, people are clapping all over the street when the police is passing, and the security forces are receiving [words indistinct] support in Monrovia here. You can contact any of your independent people to verify that. [end recording]

#### **Liberia: UN Official Views Situation, Fears Humanitarian Problems**

*AB0704193296 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It is almost inevitable that hard on the heels of the clashes in Liberia will come a new set of humanitarian problems. Since 1992, Monrovia had been something of a safe haven for thousands of refugees and displaced people, but now that could all change. On the line, Tom Porteous asked (Paul Cullon), the head of the UN Development Program's mission in Liberia, what sort of problems they were facing?

[Begin recording] [Cullon] The most immediate problem appears to be that right here, in the part of town that is still relatively safe, the Mamba Point area, we have a concentration of — I would say — anywhere of around 5,000 displaced persons. They seem to manage in terms of, you know, getting food from friends and relatives,

and those who had money are buying food, but those supplies are going to run out in the next 24 hours.

[Porteous] And does the UN have the means to help with those people?

[Cullon] We have some means. At the moment, we are assessing how adequate those means are and how long we could stretch those means.

[Porteous] How easy is it for you to get around the city to get, for example, to your warehouses and to distribute food to those who need it, both in the Mamba Point area and in other parts of the city?

[Cullon] Well, that is a very good question, Tom. At the moment, we are trying to get ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] cooperation to actually secure one of the compounds where most of the supplies are located.

[Porteous] What is the news from the rest of the city? What kind of information do you have about what is going on today?

[Cullon] Basically, there is a continuing standoff in Sinkor. It is a no-go area. Many, many civilians are trapped in those areas. From where I stand at the office, if I look along the beach in the southeasterly direction, I can see that there is a considerable amount of fighting around the BBC complex and there is sporadic firing in the city. Basically, most of Monrovia is pretty unsafe.

[Porteous] Do we have any idea of any numbers of casualties so far?

[Cullon] We have a report from one of the MSF's [Medecins Sans Frontieres, Doctors Without Borders] that they treated something like 20 cases, but frankly, Tom, I suspect that there are many, many cases that had to be left unattended on the streets.

[Porteous] What kind of information.... [pauses] How are you getting your information from the rest of the city given that it is so insecure at the moment? Are there UN people monitoring the situation nearer to the fighting?

[Cullon] Yes, you know, we have a fairly extensive network of UN staff who live in all parts of the city. They call in regularly and report back to us what the scene is at their end. So, we manage quite adequately to piece together, you know, what conditions are in most of Monrovia and its environs.

[Porteous] And what kind of picture is emerging at the moment, because we get suggestions from people like Alhaji Koromah and Charles Taylor that the situation is being brought under control?



[Cullon] That is (?exceptional), of course. It would not be at the moment my perception. Unless the military activity in Monrovia, in the greater Monrovia area, is brought under control in 24 hours, we are going to have a major humanitarian crisis on our hands. [end recording]

**Liberia: Fighting Spreads to Barracks; Peace Force To Restore Calm**

*AB0704145696 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English  
1300 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FB'S Transcribed Text] The fighting in the Liberian capital, Monrovia, is reported to have spread to the main barracks. This has caused thousands of civilians staying in the area to flee. Looters are also said to have ransacked shops. The fighting between the police and supporters of a former faction leader, General Roosevelt Johnson, followed an order by the interim administration for the arrest of Gen. Johnson on murder charges. The state radio has broadcast a statement from the West African peacekeeping force that it will ensure that calm is restored to the city. There has been no official casualty figure, but eyewitnesses report seeing a number of bodies around.

The Transitional Council of State suspended Gen. Johnson from the government as minister of rural development after commanders in his ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson] militia deposed him as leader last February. It sacked him last month after a clash near his home and ordered that he stand trial for murder.

**Liberia: Monrovia Airport Closed; Heavy Weapons Fire in Mamba Point**

*AB0704133496 Paris AFP in English  
1320 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[Report by James Dorbor]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, April 7 (AFP) — Three military helicopters and a civilian aircraft were torched Saturday [6 April] at Monrovia's airport, now closed to traffic, while heavy gunfire could be heard midday Sunday in the Mamba Point district, aid workers said.

Also Saturday, some 20 wounded people, one of whom has since died, were admitted to two hospitals run by humanitarian organisations, the same sources said.

For more than 30 hours the Liberian capital has suffered the worse breakdown in security since all factions party to a civil war signed a peace deal last August.

The fighting started in the northeastern Sinkor District in the early hours of Saturday when armed police tried to arrest former faction leader "General" Roosevelt Johnson, wanted for murder. Shooting later spread to the city centre.

The three burnt helicopters had been given by the United States to the African peacekeeping force, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], only a few weeks earlier.

The civilian aircraft belonged to WEASUA, one of the few private airlines that still regularly serves Monrovia airport.

Aid workers contacted by telephone said movement in Monrovia was impossible, and that there was no sign of ECOMOG troops in the Mamba Point district, where most UN and humanitarian agencies are based.

In the city centre sporadic automatic weapons fire was audible around midday Sunday.

Looters aiming to deter witnesses were thought to be responsible.

Although ECOMOG announced Saturday night it would intervene to restore law and order in Monrovia, the peacekeepers so far seem to have taken no concrete action.

An AFP correspondent in Monrovia said he had seen some ECOMOG armoured vehicles in town but saw no attempt to tackle the situation.

According to unconfirmed reports, trouble has also broken out in barracks housing the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL-formerly the regular army) whose ethnic Krahn members wanted to join troops loyal to Johnson, also a Krahn and other factional fighters of the same ethnic group.

A Sunday radio announcement said one retired "General" Charles Julue, imprisoned last July, was "liberated" by Johnson loyalists together with six other senior AFL officers.

All were given seven year jail sentences following a coup attempt.

Julue was chief of staff under the dictatorship of former president Samuel Doe (executed in 1990) and in September 1994, together with some 100 AFL dissidents, occupied the seat of government in Monrovia for around twelve hours before being overcome by ECOMOG troops.

Julue and his accomplices have since been held in Barclay barracks, in central Monrovia.

AFL members have been accused of trying to spring Julue several times since his arrest.

Julue supporters were also accused of massacring more than 50 civilians in December 1994 in the southeastern Paynesville suburb of Monrovia.

Formerly Doe's presidential guard, the AFL have been gradually regrouping since their leader was killed.

Their 4,000 mainly-Krahn members are due to regain their status as the national army once a peace process is completed.

#### **Liberia: 'Thousands' Flee Factional Fighting in Monrovia**

*AB0704181796 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Thousands of people are reported to have fled Monrovia in the last 36 hours or so. It's the worst security breakdown the capital has seen for over three years, and the main airport is closed and is under heavy guard. Our correspondent Jonathan Peleyle has managed to get to some of the parts of the city where there has been fighting. He telexed us this report:

The fighting in Monrovia spread today from the Sinkor district to the Barclay Training Barracks, which has been occupied by fighters loyal to the ousted ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson] leader Roosevelt Johnson. Later, fighting broke out in Randall Street and Broad Street in the downtown Monrovia area. I saw Roosevelt Johnson himself on Broad Street surrounded by his bodyguards and apparently making his way from the Barclay Training Barracks to the Mamba Point diplomatic district. The fighting mostly appeared to be between Krahn supporters of Johnson and government security forces.

It was difficult to confirm whether or not factional fighters of Charles Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and of Alhaji Koromah's ULIMO-K [Koromah] were involved in the fighting, because the fighters I saw were not in uniform. Certainly, both men's fighters were much in evidence speeding through the city and commandeered vehicles. There was a heavy presence of fighters from all factions around the airport, which is now closed.

ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] forces have been standing by since the start of the fighting on Saturday [6 April] morning. ECOMOG soldiers I spoke to who were manning checkpoints told me they regarded the situation as a problem between the government and Roosevelt

Johnson. However, it is clear that unless ECOMOG intervenes soon to contain the fighting, it may well develop into a full-scale ethnic civil war.

#### **Liberia: ECOMOG Peacekeepers Vow To Maintain Law, Order in Monrovia**

*AB0604185996 Paris AFP in English 1831 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, April 6 (AFP) — The African peacekeeping force in Liberia, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West Africa States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], Saturday [6 April] said it would not stand by and allow law and order to break down in the capital, where sporadic violence has frightened civilians since dawn.

"In our capacity as a neutral peacekeeping force, and in line with our mandate we will do everything necessary to stop this unwarranted development so as to ensure that Monrovia remains a safe haven for all of us," said ECOMOG field commander, Major General John Inienger in a radio broadcast late Saturday afternoon.

ECOMOG had "observed the likelihood of this incident developing in an unnecessary full-scale war which will not benefit anyone in the city," Inienger said.

Inienger confirmed shooting had taken place earlier in the day in the capital's northeastern Sinkor district, where armed police moved in at dawn in an as yet unsuccessful attempt to arrest former faction leader "general" Roosevelt Johnson to answer a charge of murder.

The sound of shelling and automatic rifle fire echoed through the city as the rapid response police unit was confronted by fighters loyal to Johnson.

Later in the afternoon sporadic violence spread to the city centre, quickly emptying streets of residents.

"It is necessary that the skirmishes should not be given factional or tribal coloration by all the parties involved, to avoid unpleasant consequences on all sides," he said, in an apparent reference to reports that some factional fighters had joined gunmen loyal to Johnson and that others were working for the police.

Inienger said he was requesting everyone to be "law abiding and avoid activities that would endanger the lives of innocent civilians."

Liberia's ruling council of state sacked Johnson two weeks ago from his ministerial post after his own commanders ousted him as leader of the Krahn wing of the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO-J).

A murder charge against Johnson followed the death outside his house on March 22 of man loyal to his replacement.

**Liberia: UN Observer Mission Offices Reportedly Ransacked**

AB0804093596 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English  
0600 GMT 8 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The UN Observer Mission in Liberia [UNOMIL], has been ransacked and its staff forced to flee as the fighting in the capital, Monrovia, spread to new areas. The American Embassy nearby has not been attacked but is said to be under threat. Thousands of civilians have fled their homes after clashes between police backed by pro-government militiamen and supporters of one of the faction leaders, General Roosevelt Johnson, began last Saturday [6 april]. The police are attempting to arrest Gen. Johnson on murder charges.

Meanwhile, fugitives from the fighting have held Easter services in a besieged former army barrack, singing and praying for the restoration of peace in their country.

**Liberia: People Flee Fighting, Take Refuge at U.S. Embassy**

AB0804091096 London BBC World Service in English 0630 GMT 8 Apr 96

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Since the fighting began, thousands of people are said to have fled the capital and thousands more have taken refuge in the United States Embassy. On the line to Monrovia late last night, Nick Slatter asked embassy's spokesperson, Dudley Sims, how many people have arrived at the embassy.

[Begin recording] [Sims] Thousands of displaced persons who are coming in from areas where fighting has taken place and they are seeking safe heavens. Experience first taught them that an American Embassy compound where officials live, called Gracetown, is a place that they can go to be safe. And there are about 10 to 15,000 displaced persons on the Gracetown compound.

[Slatter] Are you confident that you can provide these people with safety?

[Sims] They never have asked for any food, or water, or anything. They are very very skillful at getting those things for themselves. They just want to know that they are in a safe area and that is as far as we go.

[Slatter] How close has the fighting come to your compound today?

[Sims] Well, there has been shooting directly in front of the embassy itself, a block or so down the road. There were soldiers who looted the offices of the UNOMIL [UN Observer Mission in Liberia] force and they bypassed our place and they did not touch any of the American Embassy facilities.

[Slatter] Where have the UNOMIL staff gone? Have they joined you at the US compound?

[Sims] There are about 90 of them staying here on our compound and they are moving out. I just saw them a few minutes ago. They are moving out now back to their offices across the street.

[Slatter] Would you say the people who have come to the compound and indeed your own U.S. Embassy's staff, are rather scared about what is happening?

[Sims] I would say so. I think in a situation like this, it is to be expected that they would probably not have come had they not been afraid. [end recording]

**Liberia: Fighting Traps Italian Family in Monrovia**

LD0804151196 Rome RAI Uno Television Network in Italian 1130 GMT 8 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Alarm is growing in Monrovia, the capital of the African state of Liberia. Fierce fighting between rival factions has been taking place for days in the center of the city, which is full of armed groups who are shooting and pillaging.

Four Italian citizens, the Maconi family, including two children of 12 and 15 years of age, have been trapped in their home by the fighting, and have not succeeded in getting to safety in the U.S. Embassy or other international sites as many foreign residents, including two other Italians, have done. They are now waiting to be brought to safety.

[Correspondent Ravaglioli] The Italians trapped in Monrovia are four members of the Maconi family: the father, mother, and two children of 12 and 15 years of age are trapped in their home but are well. A few hours ago my colleague Matilda Germani spoke to them by telephone.

[Begin recording] [Germani] Mrs. Maconi, how are you and how is the situation there?

[Maconi] Fortunately we are well, although this has been very ... [pauses] because we were not planning to spend the night [words indistinct].

[Germani] Has your house been hit in the last few days?

[Maconi] Yes, it was hit yesterday. I think by a [word indistinct]. The problem is that, when people fight,



other groups go out stealing, they immediately take advantage.

[Germani] So you are worried about intruders?

[Maconi] Probably — if they start shooting probably yes.

[Germani] But however did you come to remain in Liberia?

[Maconi] Because this all broke out unexpectedly. [end recording] [passage omitted]

#### **Liberia: Radio Reports on Situation, Planned U.S. Evacuation**

*LD0804124196 Paris Radio France International in French 0730 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] [Unidentified announcer] Few would now dare to forecast an end to the civil war in Liberia, given what is currently happening in Monrovia, where we seem to have returned to the worst episodes of interfactional fighting, with a west African intervention force — ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] — caught almost helplessly in the middle. Previously it was Charles Taylor, leader of the Patriotic Front, who played the spoilsport. Now it is Roosevelt Johnson who has taken up the baton. Ousted from the part of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] that he led at the beginning of the year; dismissed recently from the post of minister for rural development, which he held in the transitional government; and — to cap it all — accused of murder, Roosevelt Johnson will not have any of it. He is currently trying to gather around himself the Krahn faction, which ran the country from 1980 to 1990.

The fighting over the past two days in some districts of the capital has claimed lives — it is not known exactly how many — and resulted in thousands of people fleeing the battle zones. Here is an account by Christophe Pelletier of the Action Against Hunger organization. He is interviewed by Chantal Lorho.

[Begin recording] [Pelletier] Regularly — and it is finally that this day in fact [words indistinct] a day of intensive fighting — we have always heard heavy weapons fire, whether it is very, very close to where we are or sometimes even in Monrovia's slum districts, where we have heard dull, heavy explosions — therefore, from high-caliber weapons. There has, nevertheless, been a lot of movements back and forth, crowd movements in fact, people moving around to try and find refuge, a more or less sheltered area. One can talk in terms of several thousand people in Monrovia, central Monrovia, who have moved over the last two days.

[Lorho] Are there dangers of health problems being created in the coming 24 hours — water problems, food problems?

[Pelletier] Absolutely, because today getting around is difficult, even impossible, so to transport water in a city where fighting is going on is far from easy. So, that will be a serious problem. Moreover, one then has all the sanitation problems that are going to be created, because a concentration of several thousand people will, of course, immediately create problems. [end recording]

[Announcer] The United States has reportedly already set in motion a plan to evacuate its nationals and other foreigners living in Monrovia in the event of the situation continuing to deteriorate. For the moment, the city's airport is closed following the fire of 6 April, which destroyed three helicopters offered a few weeks ago by the United States to ECOMOG.

#### **Liberia: Lebanon Asks U.S. To Help Evacuate Citizens**

*LD0704225896 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] In Liberia, the fighting continued in Monrovia today. It broke out yesterday after the Council of State recently called for the arrest of the former warlord, Roosevelt Johnson. The supporters of the latter, seemingly helped by the fighters of another faction, erected barricades and fighting quickly spread to the town center. In any case, it is the first time that the fighting has reached the town since the signing last August of a peace accord among the seven armed factions in Liberia. Chantal Lorho is there to tell us about the situation tonight.

[Lorho] Well, gunfire can still be heard in Broad Street, the main high street in Monrovia. It has been the theater all day of violent fighting with heavy weapons. The deserted town center has been abandoned to looters who are often drunk. According to the UNDP [United Nations Development Programme] 10,000 people have been displaced within a radius of two to three square km. The airport is closed to traffic after three military helicopters and a civilian airplane were set on fire. As you can see, the situation in Monrovia has become worse in the past few hours.

Proof of this is that Lebanon has asked the United States to evacuate by sea its citizens who have been caught in the middle of the fighting. One thousand of the 2,000 Lebanese people who live in Liberia have indeed abandoned their homes and several tens of families have sought refuge in the Lebanese Embassy.

On the ground, the fears of ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] that the violence should degenerate into all-out war, with tribal connotations, are beginning to be proved. According to UN sources, several factions are now reportedly involved in the fighting. General Johnson has reportedly received support from the fighters of the LPC [Liberian Peace Council]. On the other hand, the Mandigo branch of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy], which is presided over by Alhaji Koromah, is reportedly fighting against Johnson just like the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] of his archrival, Charles Taylor. The peace accord which was signed last August in Abuja by the seven Liberian factions seems poised to be smashed into pieces, while ECOMOG cannot decide for the time being whether to intervene.

**Liberia: BBC Correspondent Reports on Monrovia Fighting**

*AB0804131996 London BBC World Service  
in English 0630 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[From the "Network Africa" program hosted by Ama Annang]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Annang] Fighting continues in the Liberian capital Monrovia. It started on Saturday [6 April] after an arrest warrant was issued to the deposed leader of ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson], Roosevelt Johnson, by two members of Liberia's ruling Council of State, Charles Taylor of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and Alhaji Koromah of ULIMO-K [Koromah]. A short while ago I spoke with our reporter in Monrovia Budu Kaisie. First of all, he told me what the latest situation in the country was.

[Begin recording] [Kaisie] Nobody appears to really be in control of what is happening. There is total chaos and looting. Others are using this occasion to settle scores. Alhaji Koromah, who is a member of the council and also leader of the ULIMO Mandigo faction, was on radio last night urging people to stop looting. He warned that anybody caught looting would be shot on sight. This action is somehow belated really because there is hardly anything left for anybody to loot.

[Annang] Who do you think is fighting who?

[Kaisie] The fighting seems to be between Alhaji Koromah-Charles Taylor's forces and the police versus the Krahn ethnic group who largely make up the LPC [Liberian Peace Council], the Armed Forces of Liberia, and ULIMO-J.

[Annang] Well, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] is in Liberia to keep the peace. What are they doing about the situation?

[Kaisie] Well, that's the question that everybody is asking. ECOMOG has not intervened to stop the looting, or even stop the fighting. Civilians fleeing the fighting complain that they saw ECOMOG soldiers, you know, who stood by and watched fighters going on rampage backed by gangsters. So really nobody is so sure what their intention is at this stage of the conflict. They have promised that they would intervene, but they are actually doing nothing to stop the situation.

[Annang] Will ECOMOG have any credibility left at all if they fail to intervene now?

[Kaisie] Well, I think there will be some degree of resentment, you know, among the civilian population. People will somehow try to discredit them in the future. People won't just appreciate them any more. People might see them and say that you didn't do anything from the beginning to stop what was going on, so your presence is actually meaningless.

[Annang] What are the civilians that are caught up in the midst of all this doing?

[Kaisie] Most of the civilians are streaming toward the Mamba Point, the diplomatic enclave of Mamba Point, which is on the southern tip of Monrovia. Some have sought refuge at the Greystone compound. It is owned by the American Embassy. Most of them have had to sleep in the open, some have had no food at all. The living condition is really desperate for most of them. [end recording]

**Liberia: 'Foreign Intervention' Restores Uneasy Calm in Monrovia**

*AB0804082096 Paris AFP in English  
080J GMT 8 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, April 8 (AFP) — Monrovia awoke Monday [8 April] to an uneasy calm after weekend fighting between government forces and a rebel faction was apparently halted through foreign intervention.

Streets remained deserted following a night disturbed by only a few isolated gunshots, most residents staying indoors after two days of clashes between the Krahn wing of the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO) and government forces, the worst fighting Monrovia had seen in four years.

UN sources here said the chairman of the West African regional organization ECOWAS [Economic Community

of West African States], Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings, and other African presidents had intervened to stop the fighting, as well as foreign diplomats here.

The weekend's clashes flared up in the early hours of Saturday [6 April] when armed police tried to arrest former faction leader Roosevelt Johnson, who had failed to turn himself in on a murder charge, at his home in the northeastern district of Sinkor.

The police were confronted there by supporters of Johnson, who led ULIMO's Krahn wing until a majority of his senior commanders ousted him in early March.

Johnson's supporters later Saturday broke out of a police cordon put up around Sinkor and moved into central Monrovia where they went on a shooting and looting spree, forcing thousands of residents, many of whom had fled Sinkor, to run for safety.

Then on Sunday heavy fighting broke out in a central barracks, the Barclay Training Centre, when government troops in pursuit of Johnson, who had fled Sinkor, were attacked by members of the Krahn faction, many of whom live in the barracks.

One UN source said Rawlings and others who intervened have suggested "another way out other than the military solution."

All seven of Liberia's factions signed a peace accord last August aimed at ending a civil war that broke out in December 1989 and left more than 150,000 people dead.

#### **Liberia: Sporadic Shooting Resumes in Monrovia After Calm Night**

*AB0804120196 Paris AFP in English  
1146 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[By James Dorbor]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, April 8 (AFP) — Sporadic shooting resumed early on Monday [8 April] in the Liberian capital, where rebels clashed with government forces this weekend in the worst fighting seen in Monrovia in four years.

After a short night of calm, the sound of automatic rifle fire and rocket propelled grenades could be heard around 11:00 A.M. (1100 GMT) in the Mamba Point district, which houses several embassies as well as UN and other aid agency offices, UN officials told AFP.

Some UN offices, including those of the World Health Organisation and the UN Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) have been badly looted, according to the same sources.

Rebels of the Krahn wing of the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO-J) resumed the shooting but residents, who have been indoors for two days, defied the firing and went out to fetch drinking water.

The fighting began at dawn Saturday when armed police attacked the residence of ousted ULIMO-J leader Roosevelt Johnson, wanted on charges of murder.

Johnson supporters then broke out of a police cordon there and moved into central Monrovia where they went on a shooting and looting spree, forcing thousands of residents to run for safety.

Then on Sunday, heavy fighting, the worst in the capital since 1992, broke out in the Barclay Training Centre when government troops in pursuit of Johnson were attacked by members of the Krahn faction, many of whom live in the barracks.

UN sources here suggested Sunday night's calm was due to the intervention of the chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings, other African presidents, and foreign diplomats here.

One UN source said Rawlings and others proposed "another way out other than the military solution."

There were no further details of such intervention.

ULIMO-J fighters Monday morning took away wrist watches, money and radio cassette players from residents fleeing their homes to seek refuge in Mamba Point.

An AFP correspondent saw an unidentified corpse lying outside the French embassy.

On Sunday night fighters looted a warehouse belonging to the Dutch branch of the humanitarian organisation, Medecins Sans Frontieres, aid workers said.

One witness told AFP ULIMO-J gunmen had also looted shops on Camp Johnson Road, one of the city's main arteries.

Hundreds of civilians were also trekking to the American Greystone compound where aid workers said at least 6,000 displaced have so far arrived to seek refuge.

The displaced said they were fleeing areas around the military Barclay Training Center where ULIMO-J fighters clashed Sunday with government forces.

Some of the residents said they saw government troop reinforcement heading toward the barracks.

Aid agencies are trying to accommodate as many people as they can but say their resources are limited.



"We wish to take in more people but we can not due to the lack of sufficient drinking water," one aid worker told AFP.

Many Monrovia residents are disappointed with the inaction of the African peacekeeping force in Liberia, ECOMOG (Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group), which is controlled by ECOWAS.

"I do not know what ECOMOG is doing here. They told us that ECOMOG was in charge of security of Monrovia but they are doing nothing," said one panic-stricken schoolteacher.

"Will ECOMOG remain here and allow warring factions to turn Monrovia into a Somalia?" asked another resident of the capital.

ECOMOG Field Commander Major General John Iniger on Saturday promised the force would not stand by and allow law and order to break down "in the safe haven of Monrovia."

But so far his statement has not been translated into action.

#### **Liberia: Johnson Escapes; Radio Warns Residents To Stay Indoors**

AB0804142996 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English  
1300 GMT 8 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The former ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson] leader, General Roosevelt Johnson, who is wanted on a murder charge, is said to have escaped from the barracks of the former national Army where he was holed up. His whereabouts are not known but the police are continuing their search for him.

Reports from the capital, Monrovia, say a number of people are still trapped in foreign embassies despite a lull after two days of fighting. Rival militiamen are, however, said to be moving about in the city center, especially around the barracks of the former national Army. Residents say supporters of Gen. Roosevelt Johnson, who were holed up in the barracks, organized a belated Easter service early this morning.

Meanwhile, forces of the west African peacekeeping force are said to be patrolling the city to prevent further clashes. In another development, the local radio station of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia is sending out warnings to residents to stay indoors.

#### **Liberia: Thousands Flee Renewed Fighting**

LD0804153196 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 8 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] In Liberia, fighting resumed this morning in the capital between the supporters of the former head of ULIMO-Krahn [United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy-Krahn] and the Liberian security forces. Tens of thousands of people have fled Monrovia because of the fighting which has been raging for the last 48 hours. Ghislaine Dupont speaks:

[Dupont] The rebels seem to have started looting again in small scattered groups, notably in the houses which have been abandoned by their owners who are trying to seek refuge in the residential area of Mamba Point. A warehouse of Medecins Sans Frontieres was looted last night and in the morning a rocket was fired at the gate of the organization AICF [Action Internationale Contre la Faim, International Action Against Hunger]

At the moment it is very difficult to determine whether these actions have been organized by Roosevelt Johnson's ULIMO, one of the seven factions which started the fighting which took place throughout the weekend, or whether this latest spate of violence is the work of uncontrolled gangs, sort of desperados who are taking advantage of the situation.

One thing for sure is that the violent fighting of the weekend was triggered off shortly after the Council of State, that is to say, the leading organ of the country, decided to arrest the former warlord Johnson who is the head of ULIMO-Krahn. The members of the Krahn, an ethnic minority, ruled the country before Charles Taylor started war in 1989. Today they are split into three factions. The obvious danger is that these may present a united front to defend Johnson. This would mean that the peace process would once again be destroyed.

#### **Senegal**

##### **Senegal: Talks Between Separatist MFDC, Government Said Stalled**

AB0704145096 London BBC World Service in English 1705 6 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It has been something of a blow to the peace process in Senegal's remote southern province of Casamance. Hopes were high for a permanent end to the 13-year civil war in the territory between government forces and separatist MFDC [Movement of Casamance Democratic Forces] rebels. A unilateral cease-fire was declared by the

rebels in December. Talks between the MFDC and the government was scheduled to begin on Monday [8 April], but there has been a dramatic last minute development as Joseph Winter reports from Dakar:

[Begin Winter recording] Father Diamacoune, the secretary general of the Movement of Casamance Democratic Forces, MFDC, this morning announced that he would not be participating in the peace talks with the Senegalese Government, scheduled to start on Monday. In a letter to the prime minister, Habib Thiam, the rebel chief said that two of the MFDC's conditions for starting face-to-face negotiations had not been met. These were that the talks take place in a neutral country and that the MFDC leadership be given passports and try to consult their members abroad before starting talks with the Senegalese authorities. Diamacoune wrote that Senegal is laughing at the (?teasing) blood of Casamance by announcing that the roundtable discussions would be held on Senegalese territory in the southern town of Ziguinchor, while the separatist leaders have not been given passports to enable them to go and work out a joint position with their expatriate supporters.

Despite this last-minute hitch, the peace process which has been painstakingly stitched together over the last few months has not completely come apart at the seam. Diamacoune's right-hand man, (Tarane Manga), told me that the MFDC fighters would continue to respect the cease-fire which has been in place since last December, and still thought that face-to-face talks would eventually take place once their demands have been met. Even more significantly, he no longer stuck to the rebels' previous line of complete independence or nothing. The MFDC lieutenant told me: Independence or no independence, we cannot say yet what the outcome of the talks would be. [end recording]

#### **Senegal: Casamance Separatists To Boycott Talks With Government**

*LD0604164796 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The separatists of Casamance have announced that they will boycott the negotiations which are due to be held with the Senegalese Government as of next Monday [8 April]. This decision was made public by (Edmond Bora), one of the four negotiators for the separatists, who is also a member of the Political Bureau of the Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance [MFDC]. He answers questions asked by Claude Jolly:

[Begin recording] [Bora] We do not want to go to Ziguinchor on 8 April, because this was not the plan. It was mentioned and Abbe [Senghor] said that the

negotiations of 8 April will take place in a neutral place. As Ziguinchor is not in neutral territory, talks cannot take place there.

[Jolly] It appeared that next Monday's meeting would be just a formality. Is there a risk that this will be misunderstood by the Senegalese opinion.

[Bora] I do not know. We have just learned through the radio and from newspapers that they would be a formality and that was not the plan. We said that 8 April would be the start of the negotiations.

[Jolly] Where do the MFDC or Abbe Diamakoune Senghor want to go? Do you have any idea about that and have you made any proposal to the Senegalese Government?

[Bora] We asked the Senegalese Government to issue us with passports to enable us to go to Europe to meet our compatriots there and, in common agreement with them, decide on the date and venue of the meeting.

[Jolly] If the Senegalese authorities want to keep Ziguinchor as the place for the talks, what will happen?

[Bora] The abbot has already said that the talks will take place in a neutral place and as Ziguinchor is not in neutral territory, one cannot hold talks there and as the abbot is a prisoner of the Senegalese Government he cannot hold talks in Ziguinchor. [end recording]

#### **Senegal: Government Postpones Peace Talks in Casamance**

*AB0704151396 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] In Senegal, a government communique issued last night says the opening ceremony of the peace talks on Casamance, scheduled to take place tomorrow in Ziguinchor, has been postponed until further notice. This communique is in reply to a letter sent by Father Augustin Senghor Diamacoune, secretary general of the Movement of Casamance Democratic Forces [MFDC], that the MFDC cannot be present at the opening ceremony because of the government's refusal to issue passports to MFDC leaders to go to Europe. Speaking to our correspondent, Abdoulaye Thiam, Landing Savane, opposition member of parliament and a native of Casamance, says without minimizing the difficulties there is hope for peace. This is Landing Savane:

[Begin Savane recording] One should not hide the fact that there are difficulties involved, and one should also not think that these difficulties will be resolved easily. The process is likely to be a bit long, but the most important thing for me is that partners at the negotiation table are today convinced of the need for a return to

peace. And if this spirit of appeasement becomes consolidated, then a compromise can be possible, especially when the law on regionalization, in spite of its limitations which are well known to us, somehow offers a possibility somewhere for Casamance and other regions of Senegal to attain a level of local governance which creates conditions for change and a better standard of living for the people. [end recording]

**Senegal: Discussion on Missing Frenchmen Urged at Peace Talks**

*AB0604165296 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French  
1830 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The relatives of the four French citizens from Saint Etienne, in central France, who disappeared in Senegal on 6 April 1995, would like the fate of their dear ones to be discussed at the peace conference scheduled to open in Ziguinchor, in Senegal, on 8 April. We want the French authorities to put pressure on the Senegalese Government, the Movement of Casamance Democratic Forces, and Guinea Bissau so that the disappearance of our relatives is put on the agenda of these peace talks, Gerald Gagniere, the spokesman of the families of the missing persons, said.

We are convinced that there are people in France and Africa people who know the truth, but who for reasons unknown to us, are refusing to talk. We want to know the truth and have tangible proof of the fate of our relatives to be able to, in the worst case, give them a decent burial, Gagniere added.

The version prevailing for several months now is that Martine and Jean-Paul Gagniere, and Catherine and Claude Cave were killed in clashes between Senegalese soldiers and separatist forces in the forests of lower Casamance into which they ventured during their stay as tourists. However, the numerous high-level contacts and trips made to Senegal, Casamance, and Guinea Bissau in the past year by the relatives of the missing persons have not confirmed this.

I feel pessimistic; it will be a miracle if they are alive, Gagniere said. He, however, stressed that the families, who are being encouraged by the hundreds of members of their support club, are still motivated and will not let not the matter sink into oblivion. He announced that the members will gather at the premises of the support club, and then stage a silent march in their memory in Saint Etienne on 11 April.



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